

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

MARVEL
RATONING
dec \$1.75 U.S.
WORLDWIDE
KODAK SAFETY FILM
MARVEL

SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF
CLIVE BARKER

EctoKid™



THIS
ISSUE:
DEX'S™
AMAZING
NEW POWER
REVEALED!

OBI

AT
THE
MERCY
OF
THE

BROTHERS™

AUGUSTINE

SKROCE +
JIVORAK '93

DIRECT EDITION

00411



7 59606 02563 8

MEET DEX MUNGO, SOMETIME THIEF, FULL-TIME STREET RAT: HALF-HUMAN, AND HALF-GHOST. ENTER HIS REALM, THE ECTOSPHERE — A WONDROUS AND OFTEN DEADLY PLACE OF FANTASY, HORROR AND GRITTY ACTION, BETWEEN THE HERE AND THE HEREAFTER.

DEX MUNGO'S BODY SLOWLY
WASTES AWAY, WAITING FOR
THE RETURN OF THE ECTO-
PLASMIC CONSCIOUSNESS
THAT SOME WOULD CALL HIS
GHOST OR PERHAPS HIS SOUL...

HE SENT HIS GHOST
INTO THE REALM OF
THE DEAD TO LOOK FOR
HIS FATHER.

NOW HIS GHOST
IS BEING SENT
BACK.

VIOLENTLY.

ALL AROUND HIM
IS THE SOUND
OF RENDING MEM-
BRANE...

ECTOKID™, Vol. 1, No. 4, December, 1993. Published monthly by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second class rates is pending in New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. All ECTOKID material copyright © 1993 Clive Barker. All rights reserved. Price \$1.75 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: \$21.00 U.S., \$33.00 foreign, and Canadian subscribers must add \$8.00 for postage and GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. ECTOKID (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of CLIVE BARKER. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO ECTOKID, c/o MARVEL COMICS, SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in Canada.





CLIVE BARKER PRESENTS...

are the brothers my **KEEPER?**

A TALE OF THE
BARKERVERSE

ART • STEVE SKROCE AND BOB DVORAK
STORY • LARRY WACHOWSKI
LETTERS • SAMPOR

CREATED BY CLIVE BARKER
COLORS • MIKE THOMAS
EDITOR • MARC McLAURIN

CONSULTING EDITORS •
MALCOLM SMITH, CARL POTTIS
CHIEF EDITOR • TOM DeFALCO



HE HAD FOR-
GOTTEN THE
WEIGHT OF
FLESH, THE
WARMTH OF
HIS BODY.

HIS SOUL
SLOSHES ABOUT,
FILLING ALL THE
RIGHT PLACES.

BUT THERE
IS A PIECE
MISSING.



HE CAN ALREADY FEEL
THE BALL, WITHOUT
TOUCHING IT.



ECTOPLASM.

HALF OF HIM KNOWS
THAT HE IS THROWING
NOTHING INTO THE AIR.

BUT THE OTHER
HALF FEELS A WET
SMACK AS IT
DROPS BACK DOWN.

IT TAKES SEVERAL HOURS FOR DEX TO WORK UP THE NERVE TO OPEN THE LETTER, SNUGGLED OUT OF THE ECOSPHERE.

THE LETTER IS FROM HIS FATHER, HAND-DELIVERED BY BOGAR ALLAN POE.



my son,
Come to the
Ectosphere. I
will wait for you
at the end of High-
way 61. Do you like
Dylan?

Love always
your father

HE HASN'T HAD A FATHER
FOR FOURTEEN YEARS.

HE ISN'T SURE
THAT HE WANTS
ONE.

"YOUR
FATHER"?!
!



HE FEELS
THE BEADS
DRIP BACK
AND RIPLE
HIS SOUL.
IT TICKLES.



MAN, I
GOT TO
TALK TO
SOMEONE.

FOR DAYS THEY HAVE SEARCHED
THE INIQUITY OF NEW ORLEANS'
FRENCH QUARTER.

ICE ALBUSTINE
IS TIRED OF
CLEANING THE
BLOOD FROM
HIS FINGERNAILS.

NOW HE SALES,
KNOWING THAT THE
SEARCH IS OVER.
DEX MUNGO WILL SOON
BE THERE.

GOOD
EVENING,
MRS.
MUNGO.

MY NAME IS ICE,
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE
TO GO FOR A LITTLE
RIDE?

DON'T WORRY,
PRETTY LADY.
I AM A
CERTIFIABLE
PHYSICIAN.

AND LOOK-- WE'VE
BROUGHT YOU
SOMETHING NICE
TO WEAR.

WHAT IN THE DEVIL
IS GOING ON HERE?

OH MY, THE
AUTHORITIES.

DAILY
AFF

-I LIKE
PEOPLE
-I CAN
-SMILE
-EAT
-AND
-TALK





LET'S TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE.

MUST BE NICE BEING A GHOST. GHOSTS CAN WALK THROUGH WALLS. I WANNA BE A GHOST SOME DAY.



SINCE THEY WERE CHILDREN, TOM COULD SEE THINGS THAT ICE COULD NOT.

WHILE IT DROVE ICE CRAZY THEN--



IT MADE HIM FRATRICIDAL NOW.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

UH, JUST A LITTLE GAMB, ICE. DON'T BE SORE.



WHAT DID I TELL YOU, HUH?

NO TALKING TO GHOSTS.



HOW CAN A GHOST BE MY FATHER?
AND EVEN IF IT WERE POSSIBLE,
SO WHAT?!

A GHOST FOR A FATHER
IS THE SAME THING AS
HAVING NO FATHER...
ISN'T IT?

I NEED TO TALK
TO SOMEONE,
SOMEONE ALIVE.
I HOPE ANGELA'S
WORKING...



--WHAT?



HE REMEMBERS THE
FIRST TIME HE SNUCK
INTO THIS PLACE.



IT WAS CROWDED.
LOUD. ALIVE.

HE WAS DRAWN TO IT.



OH NO...



THESE
HAD
EVEN
HIS
FRIENDS.
HIS
FAMILY.

HE
IMAGINES
THEIR
FACES.
THEIR
BODIES.
ZIPPERED
INTO BLACK
BAGS AND
TAKEN
AWAY.

LEAVING
ONLY
CHALK-
LINED
GHOSTS
ETCHED
ONTO A
BLOOD-
STAINED
FLOOR.



WHY?



WHO COULD
HAVE DONE
THIS?



WHO DID THIS ?

I DON'T KNOW
WHO THEY WERE.
I'VE NEVER BEEN
EITHER OF THEM.

ONE OF THEM
WAS VERY BIG.
HE BROKE MY
ARM LIKE IT
WAS NOTHING.

BUT IT WAS THE
THIN ONE THAT
SCARED ME.

ALL THEY ASKED
ABOUT WAS YOU,
DEX.

THEY ASKED EACH OF
US. THEY TORTURED US
AND WHEN THEY DIDN'T
HEAR WHAT THEY WANTED,
ONE BY ONE THEY
KILLED US.

BUT I TOLD
THEM ABOUT
YOUR MOTHER...

THEY HURT
ME, CHA...
I'M SO
SORRY...

HURRY,
DEX,
HURRY...

OH GOD.

...TO MAKE THEM
STOP. I TOLD
THEM WHERE
SHE WAS.

I PRAY THERE
IS STILL TIME.

THE SHADOWS OF THE
ROOM GROW VISCIDUS,
BREATHING LIKE BLACK
RUBBER.

I'M READY
NOW.

I HAD TO TELL YOU
EHA. THAT'S WHY I
WAITED. I'M SO
SORRY... I'LL MISS
YOU MOST OF
ALL.

THEY ARE THE
ETHERITES.

IT WAS THEY WHO
EXPULSED DEX FROM
THE ECTOSPHERE.

IN LAST ISSUE
--MORE--

THEY ARE THE ESOCHETS
TO THE ECTOSPHERE;
THE GUARDIANS OF ALL
GATEWAYS.

SHE FALLS INTO THE
SHADOW WORLD
WEIGHTLESS--

--AND
FREE.

FOR SO MANY YEARS, HIS MOTHER
HAD SEEMED DEAD, HER LIFE
DRAINED AWAY BY PILLS AND NEEDLES.

HEY YOU
STINKIN'
PUNK!

BUT NOW THE IMAGE OF
HER BODY STILL AND
SILENT, ECTOPLASM
FLOATING UP AND AWAY...

---TERRIFIED
HIM!

"ONE OF THEM
WAS VERY BIG."

NOHUNA?

"BUT IT WAS THE
THIN ONE THAT
SCARED ME."

STOP!





THAT WAS
FUNNY.



DEX? IS
THAT MY
DEX?

IF YOU WANT HIM
TO LIVE, YOU'LL
SHUT UP AND SIT
STILL!



DEX!

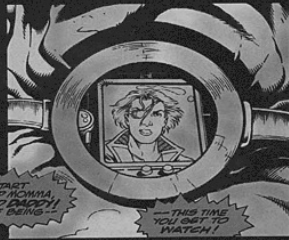














THEY MURDERED
HIS FATHER.

AND HIS FRIENDS.

NOW THEY HAVE
TAKEN HIS MOTHER.

IT SEEMS THAT THEY
HAVE TAKEN EVERY-
THING WORTH TAKING.



BUT HE VOWS TO
HIMSELF THAT
THOUGH THEY
MAY DESTROY
HIS BODY...

...THEY WILL NEVER
TAKE HIS SOUL.

NEXT:

DEX IS TRAPPED
IN A CARNIVAL
OF SOULS--

SIR SIGMOID'S ARCADIA!

Please send all correspondence to:
RAZORLINE
c/o JAMES ROBINSON
345 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10017

MARCUS McLAURIN, EDITOR
STEVEN GILBERT, ASSIST. EDITOR
NATHANIEL SMITH, CONSULTING
EDITOR

Ectokid
NM 88101

split in transition

Marcus McLaurin

Synchronicity is an amazing thing, like quicksilver of the ether striding where you least expect and most need it. It's not the kind of thing you can depend on, but when it does hit, it's magic.

A bit of that magic is in the fertile mind of Larry Wachowski.

When searching for a replacement for James Robinson, Larry's name came immediately to mind as one of the most creative guys I'd ever worked with.

In issues to come, you'll see Larry's developing of Dex's power to degrees and in directions most of us never even thought of in passing. With this issue fully beginning Larry's tenure as writer, the changes and developments will come fast and furious.

Dex's power will soon undergo a development of several stages, each beginning to define the metaphysics that will make this book the most unique comic experience out there. What is Ectoplasm? Why does the Ectosphere resemble this world? If living creatures in this world pass beyond this world into that, what is beyond that? And what are the native denizens of that dimension?

These were some of the questions we postulated at the recent Razorline Conference in San Diego, and the answers were shocking, almost as much as the lightning rapidity with which Larry had the answers ready.

Synchronicity. Sometimes it works, and all is right with the world. Stick around and see what I mean.

Dear Ectokid,

This is a book I look forward to like no other book I read. It's off to a great start, but I'm bummed there's already going to be a new writer. Isn't it a little early? But I'm not that bummed. James Robinson is a great writer but this is a concept that should be easy to fly with, as long as the new writer can write. Which leads me to an important question, and actually the main reason I'm writing: who is this guy Larry Wachowski? I've never heard of him before. Not that I'm a comic book expert, but for everyone else on the Razorline team I've been able to track down a history. But not this guy.

Can you help me?

Ingrid Erickson
Bard College
New York State

Sure, Ingrid. Larry has written for **HELLRAISER** and **NIGHTBREED** and just recently wrote **BOOK OF THE DAMNED IV**. Elsewhere, Larry has been busy as a screenwriter. With the help of his brother, Andy, the team has written a number of scripts. Look for his name on your favorite films at theatres near you soon. Then again, if you're short the seven-fifty, get a bargain and enjoy his writing in the pages of **ECTOKID**. A monthly piece worth far more than the price of admission. Larry officially takes over the wheel this issue. Hope you like it! We sure do 'round here.

Dear Marcus and Malcolm,

I found **ECTOKID** #1 slightly strange. And you know what? I wouldn't have it any other way. This is more what I suspect most Barkerphiles expected when the news broke on the new Razorline titles. Mr. Clive is famous for his weird imagination and this series is starting out as a very weird trip indeed. And while it's too early to tell where this story is really going, I thought the least I could do would be to send a few raves in the direction of your current art team.

So far **ECTOKID** seems to have the nicest artwork of any of the new Barker books. I am not familiar with Steve Skroce or Bob Dvorak, but if this story is any indication, I'm sure readers will be seeing a lot more of their work. Steve has a twisted flair for the bizarre. At first glance I felt his grotesque figures appeared to be slightly on the humorous, almost cartoony side. However, as this tale progressed I slowly found myself mesmerized by his style. If you stop and think about it, the figures of our darkest dreams are usually distorted beyond any sense of normal reality. Steve presents his version of this realm of shadows in a

very unique fashion. So by the end of this adventure, like Dex I'm sure, I found his grinning, drooping pursuers a bit more disturbing than at first. I also really got a kick out of the nasty little bat-winged cherubs, and the chilling scene on page 10 is simply the horror shot of the year. Nice job, guys. I'll be having nightmares over this one for a year.

Bill D. Middleton
1708 N. Prince Street
Clovis, NM 88101

Uncle Joe Skully (the fisherman) would call this creative team, "a keeper." Bill. We call them talented. Wait till you see next issue. Which leads us to...



NEXT:

Dex leaps back for Ectospheric adventure that reunites him with his father — and a demonic troll on both their tails! Quest starring James Dean, Janis Joplin, Sacco and Vanzetti!

CUTTING EDGE ALERT!

Next week **HOKUM** & **HEX** #4:

Earth's champion is thrown in jail! And when the greatest hero of a bygone age turns up to the rescue, Trip Munroe will be freed, whether he wants it or not! It's the tragic return of Z-Man!

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE RAZOR'S EDGE:

SINISTER SINNER #4:

Called tragically back to Earth on unfinished business, the Saint Sinner is confronted by an undying evil loose in the Hudson river and on a Madison Avenue gone amok!

HYPERKIND #5:

The power of Paragon Johnn Plus, the most-asked Razorline question of the decade is answered (sort of) — as we reveal the status of the fifth power!

Dear Ectokid,

How to start? **MOTHER AND SON** was excellent. The best way to begin a new title is with an introduction to the storyline on the "same page" that its hero finds it all out. I like the idea of discovering what's happening as Dex does. It fully enhances the experiences.

Not to mention the beautiful work by Steve & Co. I'm looking forward to next issue.

Eric C. Graham
63 Melrose Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94131

Dear Marc,

Dex Mungo's "duality," if you will, has its drawbacks. Equal parts human and ghost, Dex can't completely understand what kind of mess he's been thrust into. This'll be a wild ride.

Steve Skroce's artwork reminds me a great deal of Paul Gulacy. Powerful, solid lines, very realistic images. Worth a 10 for sure.

Jacob Gilbert
118 4th Street, Apt. 1
Troy, NY 12180